PLN Strategy #3

(working with fiction)

**Lesson Focus:** Combining Fiction with Nonfiction

**PLN piece:** Fast Facts

When reading Maniac Magee I realized that my students didn’t know much about the Civil Rights Movement. I found a few overviews of the movement on line and made copies. This can be done with any historical fiction book and the time period that it covers.

A Fast Facts sheet can be quickly set up by students or the teacher can have one prepared ahead of time. t involves separating the paper into four sections with a sub-topic heading for each section. My sub-topics for the Civil Rights Movement article were: When/Where?

Big Names

Big Events

Words I Don’t Get

I read the article that I found to be the easiest for sixth graders to understand. While I read the article aloud, students wrote facts they heard in the appropriate sections of their papers.

After the reading, I had the kids sit in small groups and share what they wrote down. Some students clarified questions that other students had and some great topics of discussion arose. We then had a whole group discussion and tied in what we learned to the story of Maniac Magee.

**Graphic Organizer:** the Fast Facts sheet

Ellen Russell